

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A flash photography system having a camera body, a main flash device and at least one sub-flash device, wherein said main flash device emits at least one low flash emission, serving as a main-flash emission command signal to said at least one sub-flash device, said flash photography system comprising:

a designating device that designates a flash emission mode of a main-flash emission of emitted by said at least one sub-flash device; and

a command device that commands said main flash device to emit ~~said~~ the at least one low flash emission, serving as ~~said~~ the main-flash emission command signal, said at least one sub-flash device emitting the main-flash emission in accordance with ~~said~~ the main-flash emission command signal and the designated flash emission mode;

wherein, when said designating device designates a uniform flash emission mode, said command device commands said main flash device to emit at least two low flash emissions as ~~said~~ the main-flash emission command signal, ~~a time interval between two of the at least two low flash emissions designating a duration of the main-flash emission;~~ and

wherein said at least one sub-flash device ~~emits, for the designated duration, a flash emission having a substantially uniform intensity, as said main-flash emission, in response to said main-flash emission command signal~~ comprises:

a receiver that receives the at least two low flash emissions from said main

flash device; and

a controller that controls said at least one sub-flash device to emit the main-flash emission for a designated duration, based on a time interval between two consecutive low flash emissions of the received low flash emissions, the main-flash emission having a substantially uniform intensity over the designated duration.

2. (Original) The flash photography system according to claim 1, wherein said main flash device comprises a built-in flash of said camera body.

3. (Original) The flash photography system according to claim 1, wherein said main flash device comprises an external flash device which is electrically connected to said camera body.

4. (Original) The flash photography system according to claim 1, wherein said sub-flash device comprises a slave flash unit controlled by said main flash device.

5. (Original) The flash photography system according to claim 1, wherein said designating device and said command device are incorporated in said main flash device.

6. (Original) The flash photography system according to claim 1, wherein said designating device and said command device are incorporated in said camera body.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The flash photography system according to claim 1, wherein, when said designating device designates a normal flash mode, said command device

commands said main flash device to emit a single low flash emission, serving as ~~said~~ the main-flash emission command signal; and

wherein said at least one sub-flash device emits a single flash emission, as the main-flash emission, in response to ~~said~~ the main-flash emission command signal.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The flash photography system according to claim ~~[[9]]~~ 1, wherein said command device commands said main flash device to transmit a pre-flash emission command signal, a light-magnification command signal, and ~~said~~ the main-flash emission command signal to said at least one sub-flash device successively, in that order, to control said at least one sub-flash device;

wherein ~~said~~ the pre-flash emission command signal commands said at least one sub-flash device to emit a preliminary flash emission before ~~said~~ the main-flash emission; and

wherein ~~said~~ the light-magnification command signal specifies a light amount of ~~said~~ the main flash emission of said at least one sub-flash device.

11. (Currently Amended) The flash photography system according to claim 10, wherein ~~said~~ the pre-flash emission command signal includes ~~said another command signal~~ one of the two consecutive low flash emissions.

12. (Currently Amended) The flash photography system according to claim 5, wherein said main flash device comprises a first CPU ~~which can have,~~ configured for data

communication with a second CPU provided in said camera body, said first CPU serving as said command device.

13. (Currently Amended) The flash photography system according to claim 6, wherein said camera body comprises a first CPU ~~which can have,~~ configured for data communication with a second CPU provided in said main flash device, said first CPU serving as said command device.

14. (Previously Presented) The flash photography system according to claim 1, wherein the main-flash emission comprises a series of flash pulses during the designated period.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling flash photography of a photography system having at least one emission mode, the photography system comprising a main flash device and at least one sub-flash device, the method comprising:

designating a uniform emission mode for a main-flash emission of the sub-flash device;

transmitting a main-flash emission command signal from the main flash device to the at least one sub-flash device, in accordance with the designated uniform flash emission mode, the main-flash emission command signal comprising at least two low flash emissions, a time interval between two consecutive low flash emissions of the at least two low flash emissions indicating a duration of the main-flash emission; and

~~emitting~~ controlling the at least one sub-flash device to emit the main-flash emission ~~from the at least one sub-flash device~~ for the indicated duration, in response to the main-flash emission command signal received by the at least one sub-flash device, the main-flash emission having a substantially uniform intensity over the indicated duration.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of controlling flash photography according to claim 15, wherein emitting the main-flash emission comprises emitting a series of flash pulses during the indicated duration.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of controlling flash photography according to claim 15, further comprising:

transmitting a pre-flash emission command signal, via a low flash emission, from the main flash device to the at least one sub-flash device; and

emitting a preliminary flash emission from the at least one sub-flash device, before emitting the main-flash emission, in response to the pre-flash emission command signal.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of controlling flash photography according to claim 17, wherein the pre-flash emission command signal includes the at least one emission mode.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of controlling flash photography according to claim 17, further comprising:

transmitting a light-magnification command signal from the main flash device to the

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at least one sub-flash device, the light-magnification command signal specifying a light amount of the main-flash emission; and

emitting the main-flash emission from the at least one sub-flash device in accordance with the light-magnification command signal.